

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 23 public bills, H.R. 3673–3695; and 4 resolutions, H.J. Res. 93; and H. Res. 497–499 were introduced.

**Pages H9005–07**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Pages H9007–08**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

Conference report on H.R. 2055, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–331) and

H. Res. 500, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2055) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3672) making appropriations for disaster relief requirements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 94) directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 3672; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–332).

**Pages H9005, H9004–H9397**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Ellmers to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

**Page H8969**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 11:41 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

**Page H8980**

**Journal:** The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 330 yeas to 83 nays with 2 answering "present", Roll No. 933.

**Page H8990**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 12:33 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

**Page H8994**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

***Welfare Integrity and Data Improvement Act:*** H.R. 3659, amended, to reauthorize the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families through fiscal year 2012.

**Pages H8984–90**

**Suspension—Proceedings Resumed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on December 13th:

***United States Marshals Service 225th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act:*** H.R. 886, amend-

ed, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 225th anniversary of the establishment of the Nation's first Federal law enforcement agency, the United States Marshals Service, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  recorded vote of 412 ayes to 1 no with 1 answering "present", Roll No. 934.

**Page H8991**

**Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated yesterday, December 14th:

***Rattlesnake Mountain Public Access Act of 2011:*** H.R. 2719, to ensure public access to the summit of Rattlesnake Mountain in the Hanford Reach National Monument for educational, recreational, historical, scientific, cultural, and other purposes, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  recorded vote of 416 ayes with none voting "no", Roll No. 935 and

**Pages H8991–92**

***Providing for the conveyance of certain property from the United States to the Maniilaq Association located in Kotzebue, Alaska:*** H.R. 443, amended, to provide for the conveyance of certain property from the United States to the Maniilaq Association located in Kotzebue, Alaska, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  recorded vote of 407 ayes to 4 noes, Roll No. 936.

**Pages H8992–93**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 4:37 p.m. and reconvened at 10:56 p.m.

**Page H9004**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:58 p.m. and reconvened at 12:56 a.m. on December 16th.

**Page H9004**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on pages H8984 and H9004.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** One yea-and-nay vote and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8990, H8991, H8992 and H8992–93. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 12:58 a.m. on Friday, December 16, 2011.

## Committee Meetings

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

***Committee on the Budget:*** Full Committee held a markup of H.R. 3521, the "Expedited Line-Item Veto and Rescissions Act of 2011." The bill was ordered reported, as amended.

**LEGISLATIVE MEASURES**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises held a hearing on H.R. 3606, the “Reopening American Capital Markets to Emerging Growth Companies Act of 2011.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity held a hearing entitled “The Homeless Children and Youth Act of 2011: Proposals to Promote Economic Independence for Homeless Children and Youth.” Testimony was heard from Alicia Puente Cackley, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office; Seth Diamond, Commissioner, New York City Department of Homeless Services; Maria Estella Garza, Homeless Liaison, San Antonio Independent School District; Mark Johnston, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Special Needs, Office of Community Planning and Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development; Barbara Poppe, Executive Director, U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness; Grace Whitney, Director, Connecticut Head Start State Collaboration Office, Connecticut State Department of Education; and public witnesses.

**COLLAPSE OF MF GLOBAL**

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “The Collapse of MF Global.” Testimony was heard from Dan M. Berkovitz, General Counsel, Commodity Futures Trading Commission; Robert Cook, Director, Division of Trading and Markets, Securities and Exchange Commission; and public witnesses.

**MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere held a markup of the following: H.R. 3401, to apply counterinsurgency tactics under a coordinated and targeted strategy to combat the terrorist insurgency in Mexico waged by transnational criminal organizations, and for other purposes; and H.R. 2542, to withhold twenty percent of United States assessed and voluntary contributions to the Organization of American States (OAS) for every permanent council meeting that takes place where Article 20 of the Inter-American Charter is not invoked with regard to Venezuela’s recent constitutional reforms, and for other purposes. H.R. 3401 was forwarded without amendment. H.R. 2542 was forwarded, as amended.

**MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Full Committee began markup of H.R. 3261, the “Stop Online Piracy Act.”

**LEGISLATIVE MEASURES**

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs held a hearing on the following: the Harris Neck National Wildlife Refuge and How the Federal Government Obtained Title to This Land and Promises Made to the Original Landowners; H.R. 1171, the “Marine Debris Act Reauthorization Amendments of 2011”; and S. 363, to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to convey property of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to the City of Pascagoula, Mississippi, and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from Rep. Farr; Rep. Kingston; Cindy Dohner, Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service; Holly Bamford, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and public witnesses.

**WHAT THE EURO CRISIS MEANS FOR TAXPAYERS AND THE U.S. ECONOMY**

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Subcommittee on TARP, Financial Services and Bailouts of Public and Private Programs held a hearing entitled “What the Euro Crisis Means for Taxpayers and the U.S. Economy, Pt. I.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012; DISASTER RELIEF APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012; AND DIRECTING THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 3672**

*Committee on Rules:* Full Committee held a hearing on the following: H.R. 2055, the “Appropriations Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012; H.R. 3672, the “Appropriations Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2012”; and H. Con. Res. 94, the “Directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 3672”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 7 to 2, a rule waiving all points of order against the conference report to accompany H.R. 2055 and against its consideration. The rule provides that the conference report shall be considered as read. The rule provides that the previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervention of any motion except one

hour of debate and one motion to recommit if applicable. Debate on the conference report is divided pursuant to clause 8(d) of rule XXII. The resolution also provides a closed rule for H.R. 3672 with one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill and provides that it shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The resolution further provides a closed rule for H. Con. Res. 94. The rule provides 20 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the concurrent resolution and provides that it shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the concurrent resolution. The rule provides one motion to recommit without instructions. The rule provides that the Clerk shall not transmit to the Senate a message that the House has passed H.R. 3672 until notified by the Speaker or by message from the Senate that the Senate has taken the question on adoption of H. Con. Res. 94 as adopted by the House. The rule provides that it shall be in order at any time through the legislative day of December 16, 2011, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules relating to a measure continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012. Finally, the rule waives clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against any resolution reported through the legislative day of December 31, 2011, providing for consideration or disposition of any of the following measures: (1) a measure relating to expiring provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; (2) a measure relating to the Medicare payment system for physicians; and (3) a measure relating to appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012.

Testimony was heard from Chairman Rogers of Kentucky.

### MEDICAL LOSS RATIOS

*Committee on Small Business:* Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight and Regulations held a hearing entitled "New Medical Loss Ratios: Increasing Health Care Value or Just Eliminating Jobs?" Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### CALIFORNIA'S HIGH-SPEED RAIL PLAN

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "California's High-Speed Rail Plan: Skyrocketing Costs & Project Concerns." Testimony was heard from Rep. McCarthy; Rep. Cardoza; Rep. Nunes; Rep. Costa; Rep. Rohrabacher; Rep. Zoe Lofgren of California; Rep. Loretta Sanchez of California; Joseph Szabo, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration; Jerry Amante, Mayor, Tustin, California and Member, Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors; Ashley Swearengin, Mayor, Fresno, California; and public witnesses.

### VOW TO HIRE HEROES ACT OF 2011

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing entitled "Reviewing the Implementation of the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011." Testimony was heard from Ismael Ortiz, Jr., Acting Assistant Secretary, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, Department of Labor; and Curtis L. Coy, Deputy Under Secretary for Economic Opportunity, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2011

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

#### House

*Committee on Foreign Affairs,* Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, hearing entitled "Changing Energy Markets and Their Geopolitical Implications." 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

*Committee on House Administration,* Full Committee, markup of H. Res. 496, adjusting the amount provided for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Twelfth Congress. 10:30 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,* Subcommittee on TARP, Financial Services and Bailouts of Public and Private Programs, hearing entitled "What the Euro Crisis Means for Taxpayers and the U.S. Economy, Pt. II." 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.